



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mische, Hans A.
Serial No.: 09/733,775
Filed: December 8, 2000
For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR TREATMENT OF BONE FRACTURES
Examiner: Patel, Nidir B.
Group: 3743
Docket No. 20395-00001

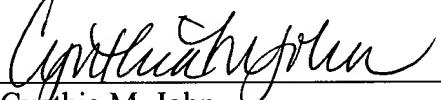
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Cynthia M. John

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This is a Response to the Office Action dated January 8, 2004 in the subject application.

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's examination of the application and requests reconsideration and allowance based on the following elections and remarks.

The Examiner is requiring a restriction to one of eleven groups of inventions, as identified by the Examiner, under 35 U.S.C. §121 and an identification of the claims that read on the elected group. The Examiner stated that each of the eleven groups is directed at a patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

In response, the Applicant elects Group I, identified as Figures 1A and 1B, and specifically claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17.

Each of the Examiner's requirements has been addressed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned in Worcester, Massachusetts at (508) 791-8500.

Respectfully submitted,



Jenifer Haeckl
Reg. No. 41,812